

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims as presented by the present response are set out below. To that end, please cancel claims 1-28, and 46-53 without prejudice and/or disclaimer of subject matter, as these claims are directed to non-elected claims (the claims were withdrawn from consideration in view of a provisional election of claims by a telephone conversation with Applicant's representatives prior to the issuance of the outstanding Action). Please also cancel claims 29-30 without prejudice and/or disclaimer of subject matter.

Claims 1-30: canceled.

31. (original) A ceramic body having a transverse rupture strength of at least about 300,000 pounds-per-square-inch and a Rockwell A-scale hardness of between about 94 and about 96 at 20 degrees Centigrade.
32. (original) A ceramic body having a transverse rupture strength of at least about 300,000 pounds-per-square-inch and a Rockwell A-scale hardness between about 95 and about 96 at 20 degrees Centigrade.
33. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the Rockwell A-scale hardness is at least 90 at 800 degrees Centigrade.
34. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the Rockwell A-scale hardness is at least about 91 at 800 degrees Centigrade.
35. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the Rockwell A-scale hardness is at least about 92 at 800 degrees Centigrade.
36. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31, or 32, wherein the ceramic body includes cobalt content ~~is present~~ from about 0.01 weight percent to about 1.0 weight percent.
37. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body includes cobalt content ~~is~~ less than about 0.6 weight percent.

38. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, ~~including an wherein the~~ average tungsten carbide particle size ~~of is~~ less than about 1.0 micrometers.
39. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, ~~including an wherein the~~ average tungsten carbide particle size ~~of is~~ between about 0.001 micrometers and about 0.6 micrometers.
40. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body ~~includes has~~ a tungsten-bound carbon content of at least about 5.5 weight percent.
41. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body ~~includes has~~ a density of at least about 95 weight percent of its theoretical density.
42. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body comprises at least about 98 weight percent tungsten carbide.
43. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body comprises at least about 99 percent tungsten carbide.
44. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body is shaped as a cutting tool.
45. (currently amended) The ceramic body of claim ~~28, 29, 30~~, 31 or 32, wherein the ceramic body is shaped as a router bit, knife, or insert.

Claims 46-53: canceled.